

House Resolution 2143

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Barnes of the 78th, Jordan of the 77th, Heckstall of the 62nd, Bruce of the 64th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of Mrs. Lisa Katherine Delores Gordon Dawson; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lisa Katherine Delores Gordon Dawson was born December 20, 1957, in
4 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Dorothy and William Gordon. Lisa graduated from St. Rosa
5 of Lima Elementary School in 1970, West Philadelphia Catholic Girls High School in 1974,
6 and Temple University with a B.A. in Arts and Communications in 1979. Subsequently, she
7 received a certificate in Computer Programming from the Los Angeles Urban League and
8 an MBA from DeVry Institute (Keller Graduate School) in 2005; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dawson was extremely active in the Clayton County community,
10 specifically as vice president of Mundy's Mill High School PTA, parent volunteer for
11 Mundy's Mill Football Team Booster Club, and cofounder and secretary for the Clayton
12 Village, an organization established to address the increased gang violence in the community.
13 Mrs. Dawson served on the Legislative Advisory Council to Representative Roberta
14 Abdul-Salaam and was appointed to the Riverdale Technical College Foundation Board
15 credited with opening a full service technical college in Riverdale; and

16 WHEREAS, her dedication and commitment to community is further demonstrated by her
17 initiation of and enduring work on numerous youth programs and enrichment opportunities.
18 Lisa served on the F.A.S.T. Panel for the Clayton County Juvenile Court. She was also a
19 Board Member of the African American Historic Preservation Alliance; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dawson recognized and understood the issues and problems facing our
21 youth in the community. She worked tirelessly to bring ideas for programs and implement
22 strategies to address these issues; her home was always a safe haven for neighborhood youth;
23 and

1 WHEREAS, youth programs, summer jobs initiatives, youth basketball, etiquette classes, arts
2 and cultural enrichment programs, and other projects that Mrs. Dawson helped to implement
3 in 2006 served to reduce the juvenile crime rate in Clayton County by 30 percent; and

4 WHEREAS, because of her demonstrated expertise and care and commitment for victims of
5 violent crimes, Mrs. Dawson was hired in September, 2005, as a Victims' Assistance
6 Coordinator for the Clayton County Solicitor General's Office. Mrs. Dawson's job was to
7 advise victims of their rights, services available to help them cope with violence, and referral
8 to other agencies that provided wraparound services. She also explained the court
9 proceedings and she made sure victims thoroughly understood the trial process of their
10 attackers; and

11 WHEREAS, throughout her life, her vibrant faith and her shining light of spirituality kept
12 her anchored in God; and

13 WHEREAS, she is survived by her son, Jahbir Ibn Malone, age 18, a student at Gordon
14 College, Barnesville, Georgia; a brother, Dr. Richard Keith Gordon, Professor at Cal State
15 of Altadena, California; a sister, Jacqueline Marie Gordon, a retired teacher and counselor
16 of Decatur, Georgia; and a sister, Karen Beth Gordon King, Director of Community Based
17 Services for Children's Service, Inc., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

18 WHEREAS, the love of her life was her son Jahbir Malone, a college freshman. Her main
19 goal in life was to see Jahbir complete his college education, and an appropriate
20 trust/scholarship fund will be established to ensure that this desire is fulfilled; and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lisa Katherine Delores Gordon Dawson passed from this earthly world
22 on Wednesday, March 21, 2006, leaving an unfillable void in the hearts and lives of all who
23 knew and loved this extraordinary Georgian.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body join to remember and honor the life and memory of Mrs. Lisa
26 Katherine Delores Gordon Dawson and to extend their most sincere condolences to her
27 family and friends.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Lisa
3 Katherine Delores Gordon Dawson.